



7 December 2021

Post-doctoral Fellow, Virologist: Respiratory viruses including COVID19

We currently have an exciting position for a dynamic post-doctoral fellow to run the respiratory virus surveillance and research aspects of the African Network for improved Diagnostics, Epidemiology and Management of Common Infectious Agents (ANDEMIA), including COVID19 with the South African Principle investigators. The project focuses on defining common and emerging causes of severe acute respiratory infections in South Africa and investigating the molecular and clinical epidemiology and genomics of known and emerging pathogens including COVID19. The group is part of the National Genomic Surveillance consortium for COVID19 and have a One Health Focus doing both human and reverse zoonoses investigations. The project is funded by the Robert Koch Institute and a network study between Germany, South Africa, Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso and DR Congo. The specific project is a joint venture by the University of Pretoria and the National Institute for Communicable Diseases.

The ideal candidate will have a **PhD in Virology** or related field with extensive experience in **real-time PCR**, Sanger and **next generation sequencing** including library prep, running of Illumina instruments and **excellent bioinformatics skills** and working in a BSL2 and preferably BSL 3 laboratory. The candidate should have a relevant publication record, experience in grant and report writing, be able to work independently but also function well as part of a team. Experience in trouble shooting and quality control in a molecular virology laboratory lab is essential. Registration with the HPCSA and experience in a SANAS accredited laboratory will be beneficial. A Code 4 driver's license and either South African citizenship, permanent residency or a study visa that will allow you to be in South Africa by January 2021. The project will be run between UP and NICD but the person will be stationed at the Zoonotic arbovirus and Respiratory virus (ZARV) program, Department Medical Virology, University of Pretoria.

Interested candidates can contact the head of ZARV, Prof Marietjie Venter on marietjie.venter@up.ac.za under the e-mail heading "Postdoc position". Please provide a cover letter stating the reason for your interest, your CV and publication record as well as academic record.

Deadline for applications 30 December 2021

Prof Marietjie Venter
Head, Zoonotic arbo and respiratory virus program